

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

IN THE MATTER OF:

**Tractor Central LLC
5704 Arndt Road
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701-9740**

ATTENTION:

**Sigfried Weiss
President
sweiss@tractorcentral.com**

Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is requiring Tractor Central Limited Liability Company (Tractor Central or you) to submit certain information. Appendix A provides the instructions needed to answer this information request, including instructions for electronic submissions. Appendix B specifies the information that you must submit. You must send this information to us within **30 calendar days** after you receive this request.

We are issuing this information request under Section 208(a) of the Clean Air Act (the CAA), 42 U.S.C. § 7542(a). Section 208(a) authorizes the Administrator of EPA to require the submission of information. The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Region 5.

You own and operate an agricultural retail business in Arcadia and throughout Wisconsin that sells and/or repairs heavy-duty vehicles, equipment, and engines. We are requesting this information to determine whether you are complying with Section 203 of the CAA and the regulations promulgated under Subchapter II of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7521-7590.

At this time, EPA Region 5 is not accepting any hard-copy document deliveries. If possible, we ask you to upload all required information to the secured web-link shared with you

at the time you received this request. If you did not receive a web-link, or if you are having technical difficulties, you should contact Ethan Chatfield at chatfield.ethan@epa.gov or (312) 886-5112 to make arrangements to submit your response.

You must submit all required information under an authorized signature with the following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that I have examined and am familiar with the information in the enclosed documents, including all attachments. Based on my inquiry of those individuals with primary responsibility for obtaining the information, I certify that the statements and information are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting false statements and information, including the possibility of fines or imprisonment pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and 1341.

As explained more fully in Appendix C, you may assert a claim of business confidentiality under 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B for any part of the information you submit to us. Information subject to a business confidentiality claim is available to the public only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you do not assert a business confidentiality claim when you submit the information, EPA may make this information available to the public without further notice. You should be aware, moreover, that pursuant to Section 208(c) of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. § 2.301(a) and (f), emissions data, standards and limitations are not entitled to confidential treatment. Appendix C provides additional information regarding the meaning and scope of the term “emissions data.”

This information request is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*, because it seeks collection of information from specific individuals or entities as part of an administrative action or investigation.

We may use any information submitted in response to this request in an administrative, civil or criminal action.

Failure to comply fully with this information request may subject you to an enforcement action under Section 205 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7524.

You should direct any questions about this information request to Ethan Chatfield at (312) 886-5112.

Date

Michael D. Harris
Division Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Division

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Appendix A

When providing the information requested in Appendix B, use the following instructions and definitions.

Instructions

1. Provide a separate narrative response to each question and subpart of a question set forth in Appendix B.
2. Precede each answer with the number of the question to which it corresponds and, at the end of each answer, identify the person(s) who provided information used or considered in responding to that question, as well as each person consulted in the preparation of that response.
3. Indicate on each document produced, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the question to which it corresponds.
4. When a response is provided in the form of a number, specify the units of measure of the number in a precise manner.
5. Where information or documents necessary for a response are neither in your possession nor available to you, indicate in your response why the information or documents are not available or in your possession, and identify any source that either possesses or is likely to possess the documents or information.
6. If information not known or not available to you as of the date of submission later becomes known or available to you, you must supplement your response. Moreover, should you find at any time after the submission of your response that any portion of the submitted information is false or incorrect, you must notify EPA as soon as possible.

Electronic Submissions

To aid in our electronic recordkeeping efforts, we request that you provide all documents responsive to this information request in an electronic format according to paragraphs 1 through 6, below. These submissions are in lieu of hard copy.

1. Provide all responsive documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) or similar format, unless otherwise requested in specific questions. If the PDFs are scanned images, perform at least Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for “image over text” to allow the document to be searchable. Submitters providing secured PDFs should also provide unsecured versions for EPA use in repurposing text.
2. When specific questions request data in electronic spreadsheet form, provide the data and corresponding information in editable Excel or Lotus format, and not in image format. If Excel or Lotus formats are not available, then the format should allow for data to be used in calculations by a standard spreadsheet program such as Excel or Lotus.

3. Provide submission to the secure web-link provided by EPA.
4. Provide a table of contents of all electronic documents submitted in response to our request so that each document can be accurately identified in relation to your response to a specific question. We recommend the use of electronic file folders organized by question number.
5. Documents claimed as confidential business information (CBI) must be submitted in separate file folders apart from the non-confidential information. This will facilitate appropriate records management and appropriate handling and protection of the CBI. Please follow the instructions in Appendix C for designating information as CBI.
6. Certify that the attached files have been scanned for viruses and indicate what program was used.

Definitions

All terms used in this information request have their ordinary meaning unless such terms are defined in the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*, or the applicable mobile source regulations, including those found at 40 C.F.R. Parts 85, 86, 1039, and 1068.

1. The terms “document” and “documents” means any object that records, stores, or presents information, and includes: email; writings; memoranda; contracts; agreements; records; or information of any kind, formal or informal, whether handwritten or typed, whether in computer format, memory, or storage device, or in hardcopy. All documents in hard copy shall also include attachments to or enclosures with any document.
2. The terms “Tractor Central” or “you” or “your” includes, Tractor Central and any assumed or related business names, affiliates, agents, representatives, employees, contractors, parent organizations, predecessor corporations, successor corporations, subsidiary organizations, affiliates, and assignee organizations or other entities that performed work or acted in any way on behalf of, are related to, or acted at the direction of Tractor Central.
3. The term “catalyst” refers to a system, such as a catalytic converter or diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC), that contains parts or chemical elements which increase the rate of a chemical reaction but are not one of the original reactants or final products, *i.e.*, are not consumed or altered in the reaction. Catalysts consist of a flow-through structure that is coated with an active metal catalyst and surrounded by a stainless steel housing.
4. The term “diesel particulate filter” or “DPF,” also known as a “periodic trap oxidizer” or “PTOX,” refers to an exhaust after-treatment emission control component that physically traps particulate matter (PM) and removes it from the exhaust stream, typically using a porous ceramic or cordierite substrate or metallic filter.
5. The term “electronic control module” or “ECM” means a device that receives inputs from various sensors and outputs signals to control engine, vehicle, or equipment functions.

ECM programming relies on calculations and tables of information to provide appropriate outputs. ECM can be a generic term but may refer specifically to the engine control module when discussing emission controls on vehicles, equipment, and engines. ECMs may be incorporated separately with multiple units or may be combined into a single unit.

6. The term “element of design” means any control system (*e.g.*, computer software, electronic control system, emission control system, computer logic), and/or control system calibrations, and/or the results of systems interaction, and/or hardware items on a motor vehicle, motor vehicle engine, nonroad equipment, or nonroad engines.
7. The term “emission control component” means any part or component and its associated fluids, sensors, signals, components, and control systems that function primarily for emission control and whose deviation from original manufacturer specifications and/or failure may significantly increase emissions.
8. The terms “derate” or “limp-home mode” mean an ECM mode that reduces the engine power after the On-Board Diagnostics system identifies a problem with an emission control component.
9. The term “exhaust gas recirculation” or “EGR” and “clean gas induction” or “CGI” refers to emission control components that direct a portion of engine exhaust back into the engine’s combustion chamber to control combustion temperatures and pressures, thereby reducing the production of nitrogen oxides (NO_x). The EGR and CGI systems may include a cooler, which cools the recirculated exhaust.
10. The term “On-Board Diagnostics” or “OBD” refers to an ECM that monitors emission control and emission-related components and systems along with certain engine components, such as the fuel delivery system and the engine control module. When the OBD detects a malfunction or deterioration that could affect emissions, it illuminates a malfunction indicator light (MIL) and produces diagnostic trouble codes (DTC) to aid in repair.
11. The term “part or component” includes any part or component intended for use with, or as part of, a motor vehicle, motor vehicle engine, nonroad equipment, or nonroad engine (*e.g.*, ECM, element of design, calibration map, tune, tuner, or software that is installed on or designed for use in such vehicles, equipment, or engines).
12. The term “product” or “products” shall mean any service, part or component, or other item(s), including, but not limited to, engine parts, manifolds, turbos, block plates, straight pipes, power packages, computer tuning, calibrations, elements of design, tuners, tunes, or devices, that are manufactured (*i.e.*, created, written, programmed, fabricated, produced, assembled or modified), purchased, imported, distributed, downloaded, offered for sale, sold, provided, performed, and/or installed by your company that are intended for use with, or as part of, a motor vehicle, motor vehicle engine, nonroad equipment, or nonroad engine.

13. The term “selective catalytic reduction” or “SCR” refers to an emission control component that includes systems, such as the diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) tank, urea quality sensor, DEF injection system, SCR catalyst(s), and other associated sensors, which inject a reductant, such as DEF, into the exhaust stream where it reacts with catalysts to convert NO_x emissions to nitrogen gas (N₂) and water (H₂O).
14. The term “service” means any action to change, affect, modify, bypass, render inoperative, remove, download, and/or install one or more part(s) or component(s) (e.g. emission control components) or other item(s), including, but not limited to, engine parts, block plates, straight pipes, power packages, computer tuning, calibrations, elements of design, tuners, tunes, software, code, or devices.
15. The term “tune” means any combination of software programming, calculations, computer logic, tables of information (*e.g.*, fuel timing maps), coding, or other content or information, stored in any form, capable of affecting or controlling an ECM.
16. The term “tuner” means any device or product capable of accessing, altering, or replacing the software programming, calculations, computer logic, tables of information (*e.g.*, fuel timing maps), code, or other content stored within or used by an ECM. Tuners also include any modules that are physically wired into the ECM, the engine, an emission control component, or other element of design capable of accessing, altering, or replacing the calibrations or operations of the engine or emission control component.

Appendix B

Information You Are Required to Submit to EPA

Pursuant to Section 208 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7542, you must submit the following information as it pertains to activities at any location owned, leased, and/or operated by Tractor Central for the time period from **January 1, 2017 to the date of this request**.

1. Respond **YES or NO**: Since January 1, 2017, have you manufactured, offered for sale, sold, and/or installed any part, component, or product (such as an EGR block plate, straight exhaust pipe, tune, tuner, ECM re-calibration, or other product, see Appendix A, Definitions, Paragraph #12) which:
 - (a) Bypass, defeat, or render inoperative any emission control component, element of design, or emission related part or component including, but not limited to, the DPF system, EGR or CGI systems, catalyst system, OBD, SCR, or sensors, signals, or records related to such systems;
 - (b) Simulate the operation of any emission control component and/or related parts including, but not limited to, the DPF system, EGR or CGI systems, catalyst, OBD, SCR, or sensors, signals, or records related to these systems; and/or
 - (c) Modify engine operating parameters, such as fuel injection timing, fuel rail pressure, and/or pulse width, emission control parameters, or OBD functions including, but not limited to, those parameters sensed or controlled by the ECM?
2. For all products identified in response to Request 1, above, provide copies of all purchase receipts/invoices, work orders, sales receipts/invoices and any other documents involving the purchase, sale, and/or installation of each product.
3. In an electronic, unlocked spreadsheet (or you may use the attached Appendix D¹, Worksheet 1), list each product identified in response to Request 1, above, and provide the following information:
 - (a) The product name;
 - (b) The product number;
 - (c) The product manufacturer's name and address;
 - (d) The product supplier's name and address (if different than manufacturer's);
 - (e) A description of what the product does and how the product operates (e.g.,

¹ Appendix D, which consists of an Excel workbook, is provided electronically for your convenience to assist you in organizing your responses to this Request. Please use the Appendix D format if you are able. If you are not able to use Appendix D, then you should create your own table summarizing the requested information.

straight pipe that allows for removal of the DPF and SCR or a tuner that alters fuel injection timing and rail pressure);

- (f) The type of vehicle(s), equipment, and engine(s) for which the product is designed, used, or sold; including the make(s), model(s), model year(s), engine type(s), year(s), and expected use(s) (i.e. agriculture, construction equipment, on-road diesel, etc.);
- (g) The average cost to you of the product sold;
- (h) Your average sale price for the product;
- (i) The quantity of product that you manufactured each calendar year (or partial year if full year not yet available);
- (j) The quantity of product that you purchased each calendar year (or partial year if full year not yet available);
- (k) The quantity of product that you sold each calendar year (or partial year if full year not yet available);
- (l) The quantity of product that you installed each calendar year (or partial year if full year not yet available); and
- (m) Indication of whether the product has been emissions tested and/or certified.

4. For products identified in response to Request 1, provide the following:

- (a) A list of media through which you advertised (i.e. website, social media, newspaper, verbal, trucking shows, conventions etc.), specifying the name of the media and/or date of truck show or convention;
- (b) A list of the Universal Resource Locators (URLs) for any website or social media page that you use or have used to advertise any of the products and/or facilitate sales;
- (c) Copies of any advertisements to sell, distribute, or install each product, including advertisements on websites and in other media; and
- (d) Copies of any installation or operation instructions, guides, or manuals for each product.

5. Provide copies of all communications and/or other documents (including emails) between you and the manufacturer or supplier of each product identified in response to Request 1, above.

6. For each product identified in response to Request 1 above, provide copies of any disclaimers, waivers, notices or releases of liability, assumption of risk and/or indemnity agreements, etc. signed by you, your customers, and/or any manufacturers. Provide any documents which relate to knowledge, liability and/or risk associated with the removal and/or modification of emission control components and/or engine parameters.
7. For all products identified in response to Request 1 above, provide copies of all documents related to the purchase, sale, and/or installation of each product that contains any customer vehicle, equipment, and/or engine information and/or information related to the customer's use or intended use of the product.
8. Provide a copy of all documents (including but not limited to emails) that discusses or describes the alteration, blocking, bypassing, defeating, disconnecting, deleting, deactivating, removal (in part or in whole), or rendering inoperative in any way of any emission control component, element of design, and/or emission related part of any vehicle, equipment, or engine owned, operated or leased by you.
9. Identify all persons responsible for the decision to start selling the products and services identified in Request 1, above.
10. Identify all persons consulted in preparing the answers to this Request for Information including his/her title(s), the request(s) to which each individual responded, and the period of time for which each individual is providing a response.

Appendix C

Confidential Business and Personal Privacy Information

Assertion Requirements

You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering any parts of the information requested in the attached Appendix B, as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b).

Emission data provided under Section 208 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7542, is not entitled to confidential treatment under 40 C.F.R. Part 2.

“Emission data” means, with reference to any source of emissions of any substance into the air:

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of any emission which has been emitted by the source (or of any pollutant resulting from any emission by the source), or any combination of the foregoing;

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of the emissions which, under an applicable standard or limitation, the source was authorized to emit (including to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the manner and rate of operation of the source); and

A general description of the location and/or nature of the source to the extent necessary to identify the source and to distinguish it from other sources (including, to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the device, installation, or operation constituting the source).

40 C.F.R. § 2.301(a)(2)(i)(A), (B) and (C).

To make a confidentiality claim, submit the requested information and indicate that you are making a claim of confidentiality. Any document for which you make a claim of confidentiality should be marked by attaching a cover sheet stamped or typed with a caption or other suitable form of notice to indicate the intent to claim confidentiality. The stamped or typed caption or other suitable form of notice should employ language such as “trade secret” or “proprietary” or “company confidential” and indicate a date, if any, when the information should no longer be treated as confidential. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent permitted and by means of the procedures set forth at Section 208(c) of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. Part 2. Allegedly confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified. EPA will construe the failure to furnish a confidentiality claim with your response to the information request as a waiver of that claim, and the information may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

Determining Whether the Information Is Entitled to Confidential Treatment

All confidentiality claims are subject to EPA verification and must be made in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 2.208, which provides in part that you must satisfactorily show: that you have taken reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of the information and that you intend to continue to do so, that the information is not and has not been reasonably obtainable by legitimate means without your consent and that disclosure of the information is likely to cause substantial harm to your business's competitive position.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, EPA may at any time send you a letter asking that you support your confidential business information (CBI) claim. If you receive such a letter, you must respond within the number of days specified by EPA. Failure to submit your comments within that time would be regarded as a waiver of your confidentiality claim or claims, and EPA may release the information. If you receive such a letter, EPA will ask you to specify which portions of the information you consider confidential by page, paragraph and sentence. Any information not specifically identified as subject to a confidentiality claim may be disclosed to the requestor without further notice to you. For each item or class of information that you identify as being CBI, EPA will ask that you answer the following questions, giving as much detail as possible:

1. For what period of time do you request that the information be maintained as confidential, e.g., until a certain date, until the occurrence of a special event or permanently? If the occurrence of a specific event will eliminate the need for confidentiality, please specify that event.
2. Information submitted to EPA becomes stale over time. Why should the information you claim as confidential be protected for the time period specified in your answer to question number 1?
3. What measures have you taken to protect the information claimed as confidential? Have you disclosed the information to anyone other than a governmental body or someone who is bound by an agreement not to disclose the information further? If so, why should the information still be considered confidential?
4. Is the information contained in any publicly available databases, promotional publications, annual reports or articles? Is there any means by which a member of the public could obtain access to the information? Is the information of a kind that you would customarily not release to the public?
5. Has any governmental body made a determination as to confidentiality of the information? If so, please attach a copy of the determination.
6. For each category of information claimed as confidential, explain with specificity why release of the information is likely to cause substantial harm to your competitive position. Explain the specific nature of those harmful effects, why they should be viewed as

substantial and the causal relationship between disclosure and such harmful effects. How could your competitors make use of this information to your detriment?

7. Do you assert that the information is submitted on a voluntary or a mandatory basis? Please explain the reason for your assertion. If you assert that the information is voluntarily submitted information, explain whether and why disclosure of the information would tend to lessen the availability to EPA of similar information in the future.
8. Is there any other information you deem relevant to EPA's determination regarding your claim of business confidentiality?

If you receive a request for a substantiation letter from the EPA, you bear the burden of substantiating your confidentiality claim. Conclusory allegations will be given little or no weight in the determination. In substantiating your CBI claim(s), you must bracket all text so claimed and mark it "CBI." Information so designated will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent allowed by and by means of the procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you fail to claim the information as confidential, it may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

Personal Privacy Information

Please segregate any personnel, medical and similar files from your responses and include that information on a separate sheet(s) marked as "Personal Privacy Information." Disclosure of such information to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that I sent a Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act by Electronic Mail, Delivery Receipt Requested, to:

Sigfried Weiss, President
Tractor Central
sweiss@tractorcentral.com

Jon Wozney, Manager
Tractor Central in Acadia
jwozney@tractorcentral.com

I also certify that I sent a copy of the Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act by E-mail to:

Maria Hill, Chief
Compliance, Enforcement, and Emission Inventory Section
Environmental Protection Division
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
maria.hill@wisconsin.gov

On _____.

Ethan Chatfield, Environmental Engineer
AECAB, IL/IN Section